



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

18 AUGUST 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Nearly 300 Arrests Made in Human Trafficking Crackdown

(U) Los Angeles – Authorities arrested nearly 300 people in a crackdown on human trafficking in Los Angeles County, which included more than 150 arrests for prostitution. Los Angeles police say authorities also rescued two sexually exploited adults and eight youngsters under the age of 18. The operation was conducted by a regional task force, the FBI, the LAPD and the county district attorney's office and probation department.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Police Report Man Accused of Killing Grandparents was Influenced by Radical Islamists

(U) Glendale – A 35-year-old man accused of killing his foster grandparents in their Glendale home using an ax and a hammer was held to answer on 16 August to capital murder charges. After a preliminary hearing, a judge ruled there was enough evidence to move forward with a trial against Nathaniel Scheiern, who police said was infatuated with and influenced by radical Islamists when he attacked his grandparents after attending church with them one weeknight in June of last year. Scheiern, who could face the death penalty, is being held without bail.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Justice Department Says It Will End Use of Private Prisons

(U) Washington – The Justice Department plans to end its use of private prisons after officials concluded the facilities are both less safe and less effective at providing correctional services than those run by the government. Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates announced the decision today in a memo that instructs officials to either decline to renew the contracts for private prison operators when they expire or “substantially reduce” the contracts’ scope. The goal, Yates wrote, is “reducing — and ultimately ending — our use of privately operated prisons.”

SOURCE: 18 August 2016, [The Washington Post](#)

(U) District of Columbia – US Offers States Help To Fight Election Hacking

(U) Washington – The government is offering to help states protect the 8 November US election from hacking or other tampering, in the face of allegations by Republican Party presidential candidate Donald Trump that the system is open to fraud. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson told state officials that federal cyber security experts could scan for vulnerabilities in voting systems and provide other resources to help protect against infiltration, his office said in a statement. Johnson encouraged the state officials to comply with federal cyber recommendations, such as making sure electronic voting machines are not connected to the internet while voting is taking place, the department said.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [Reuters](#)

(U) Florida – Authorities Search for Man Who Posted Threats to Schools

(U) Orlando – Authorities in Florida are looking for a man they say posted a series of messages on Twitter, threatening to shoot students and put pipe bombs inside some schools in the Orlando area. Officials with the FBI, Orlando police and the Orange County Sheriff's Office do not believe the threats are credible but they are looking for a 23-year-old transient who has lived in Florida, California, Virginia and Maryland. Officials say the threats started on 24 July and targeted four high schools and a middle school. The posts also encouraged people to "shoot up" the schools.

SOURCE: 18 August 2016, [SF Gate](#)

(U) Maine – Police Investigate Notes Urging Violence against Muslims

(U) Westbrook – Notes urging violence against Muslims discovered at an apartment complex in Maine are being investigated as a hate crime. An Iraqi man went to Westbrook police yesterday and told officers he found a piece of paper that said "All Muslims are Terrorists should be Killed." Police responded and found a second note, and were told two additional notes had been discovered by Iraqis living there. The department has set up a meeting with Iraqi community members to address their concerns.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) New York – Man Charged with Plotting School Attack

(U) Fairport – A New York state teen who allegedly plotted an attack on a school and put bomb-making materials on a list of items was arrested by sheriff's deputies yesterday, authorities said. The suspect, Kyle Gorden, 19, of Fairport, had told people that "he was going to attack a school at a future date," the Monroe County Sheriff's Office said in a statement. Investigators said they found that Gorden had been trying to get a gun. The statement said he was arrested on felony charges of making a terroristic threat.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – ISIL Ramps Up Anti-Canada Propaganda after Ontario Terror Incident

(U) Ontario – As expected, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has ramped up its propaganda campaign against Canada following last week's police killing of Aaron Driver, an ISIL supporter in Strathroy, Ontario, who was allegedly in the final stages of planning a bomb attack. Attempting to capitalize on the incident, the pro-ISIL al-Wa'd Foundation released two posters on its Telegram channel yesterday, including the one showing an apocalyptic Toronto, according to the SITE Intelligence Group.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [National Post](#)

(U) France – 'Auction' Of NSA Tools Sends Security Companies Scrambling

(U) Paris – The leak of what purports to be a National Security Agency hacking tool kit has sent major companies rushing to update their defenses. Experts across the world are still examining what capabilities the tool kit possesses. The tool kit consists of a suite of malicious software intended to tamper with firewalls, the electronic defenses protecting computer networks. The leaked tools also appear to be powerful, according to a running analysis maintained by Richmond, Virginia-headquartered Risk Based Security. The group said several of the vulnerabilities targeted by the malware, including one affecting Cisco firewalls, were previously unknown, and is a sign of a sophisticated actor.

SOURCE: 18 August 2016, [SF Gate](#)

(U) Germany – Police Make Arrest over Planned ‘Terror Attack’

(U) Eisenhüttenstadt – German police in the city of Eisenhüttenstadt arrested a 27-year-old man yesterday accused of “planning a terror strike.” Authorities with detection dogs arrested the German national and swept his home for explosives. The man, whose name was not released by police, is said to have recently converted to Islam. Early reports said the scheduled attack involved planting a homemade nail bomb during an upcoming festival. No explosives were found inside the man’s home.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [The Washington Times](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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